KENTUCKY ECONOMIC INDICATORS

November 2008 as of January 30, 2009

KY Composite Index of Leading Indicators decreased by 8.7 percent in November.

- > The Leading Index has decreased for the fourth consecutive month.
- ➤ The month-over-same-month-last-year growth rate declined for the twelfth consecutive month with -4.3 percent growth.
- All five indicator components were negative in November, 0:5.
 - KY Labor Intensity Index decreased 2.0 percent.
 - KY Index of Initial UI Claims decreased by 9.0 percent.
 - US Retail Sales decreased by 22.8 percent.
 - US Manufacturer's New Orders Index decreased by 13.4 percent.
 - The Louisville Help Wanted Index decreased by two points to 8.

Component weights for November are 68.6, 13.6, 11.5, 5.1 and 1.2 respectively.

KY Composite Index of Coincident Indicators decreased by 3.9 percent in November.

- The Coincident Index growth is negative for the eighth time in 2008.
- > The month-over-same-month-last-year growth rate is negative for the fifth consecutive month with -2.1 percent growth.
- The coincident components leaned negative for November, 1:2.
 - KY Non-farm Employment decreased 3.8 percent.
 - US Industrial Production Index decreased 14.8 percent.
 - + US Personal Income Less Transfers increased 10.9 percent.

Component weights for November are 39.5, 27.6 and 19.7 respectively. Component weights do not sum to one because the two US components were discounted to give the Kentucky component more weight.

The Kentucky Leading Index fell strongly for the fourth consecutive month with an 8.7 percent decline in November. These last four strong declines have brought the index down to a level not seen since September of 1996 when the index stood at 107.7. The index has yet to reach a definitive trough. The last peak was in January of 2006 when the index was 113.2. The index has fallen by 5.6 points since then, a decline of 5.0 percent. This is the fourth consecutive month where no index component has risen. In August the Louisville Help Wanted Index remained unchanged at 11.0, but otherwise, every indicator component has declined since July 2008. This is the lowest value in the history of the Diffusion Index (going back as far as the computation can be made, which started December 1990). The Diffusion Index is a broad measure of the economic landscape composed of the movements in the five leading index components over the past six months. Values over 50 mean that the majority of economic indicators are moving in a positive direction over the past six months.

Kentucky Labor Intensity Index continues to show strong downward movement. This index measures employment and average weekly hours for five Kentucky manufacturing industries. These five industries were chosen because they most accurately lead the turning points of the Kentucky reference series. These industries are not necessarily the largest or most stable, but they do 'lead' the Kentucky economy. The largest sector of the five manufacturing sectors represented in the Labor Intensity Index is transportation equipment, which has 47,800 seasonally adjusted workers as of November 2008. This is the lowest level of transportation equipment employment in Kentucky since 1996. The Labor Intensity Index has now fallen below its previous trough value which occurred in April 2003. Measuring the most recent peak is difficult because the series did not follow a clear expansion path following the 2001 recession. The Labor Intensity Index moved mostly horizontally with a few rough spots along the way, suggesting the Kentucky's recovery from the 2001 recession did not involve a clear expansion period for several Kentucky manufacturing sectors. The maximum value of the index since April 2003 occurred in March 2006 when the index briefly breeched the 105 mark with 105.0. The index has now fallen by 1.4 percent (1.5 points) since that previous peak.

US Retail Sales experienced the largest weight-adjusted decline of the components for November, losing 22.8 percent compared to October. This is the fifth consecutive loss for US Retail Sales. US Retail Sales are now in a period of unprecedented losses, both in absolute magnitude and as a percent of US Retail Sales compared to six months ago. Typically, US Retail Sales has a very strong upward trend, but in the last five-month period, US Retail Sales has experienced a sharp decline. The series now stands at \$352.6 billion, which is the lowest it has been since December 2005. US Retail Sales have now declined by \$31.5 billion (or 8.9 percent) since June 2008.

This is the sixth consecutive decline in the Kentucky Index of Initial UI Claims, falling 9.0 percent in November. This is the lowest level of the index since August 1980. The index has now fallen 5.4 points (or 5.3 percent) from its May 2008 level. The initial claims index, an inverted index, is composed of Kentucky first payments and US initial claims. Kentucky first payments declined for the first time in five months, dropping 10.2 percent over October. Meanwhile, the US component, US initial claims rose by an overwhelming 10.1 percent. The US component has the greater weight because it is the more stable series.

Kentucky non-farm employment fell for the fourth consecutive month with a 3.8 percent decline. Kentucky non-farm employment has now lost 18,900 seasonally adjusted jobs (or 1.0 percent) since November 2007. Kentucky manufacturing employment continues

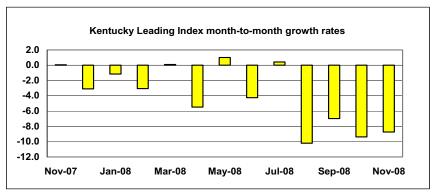
to fall also with its fourth consecutive decline. Kentucky manufacturing has now lost 13,900 seasonally adjusted jobs (or 5.5 percent), while private services employment has lost 11,600 seasonally adjusted jobs (or 1.0 percent) since November 2007.

Prices have finally subsided, with energy prices leading the way. The Federal Reserve Board has now turned their attention to stabilizing a potential deflationary period. The CPI for all goods is now back to its April 2008 level, wiping away all the large increases in the summer months. The declines in consumer demand and the prices also led to large declines in November General Fund Sales and Use receipts, which fell by 8.1 percent over November 2007.

The price declines have had large distorting effects on key macroeconomic variables, like real US personal income. In nominal terms, October US personal income declined by 0.1 percent over September, while November US personal income declined by 0.4 percent over October 2008. Meanwhile, real US personal income is showing relatively sizable increases. October real US personal income increased by 0.8 percent over September and increased by 0.9 percent from October to November 2008. Real US personal income peaked in October 2007 at \$8,507.5 billion and experienced a trough in September 2008 at \$8,341.1 billion. The net decline from peak to trough was \$166.4 billion or a 2.0 percent fall. In October and November 2008, real personal income made up \$139.0

billion, or 83.5 percent the losses during the previous contraction period. This is almost entirely due to the extraordinary decline in energy prices during that period.

Our indices are compiled and published on a monthly basis, roughly two weeks following the Conference Board release of the U.S. Leading Index. A complete description of the Index of Leading Indicators and methodology was published in the University of Kentucky Center for Business and Economic Research Kentucky Annual Economic Report, 2000.



About the Indicators

Kentucky Reference Series

Inflation-adjusted personal income less transfer payments and policy-adjusted General Fund tax receipts are combined to form the GOEA composite reference series.

Kentucky Leading Indicators

- GOEA Labor Intensity Index: Composed of seasonally adjusted weekly hours multiplied by employment for the following manufacturing industries: lumber products; chemical and allied products; petroleum, coal, rubber and plastic products; fabricated metals; and transportation equipment.
- GOEA Initial Unemployment Insurance (UI) Claims Index: This index has two components: Kentucky claims in their first month of payment and total U.S. initial claims. Additional claims for UI are the subset of initial claims filed by workers who have previously filed UI claims but are currently filing new claims with intermittent workforce attachment since their original claim. The claims in their first month of payment without intermittent qualified experience performed better in the testing process and were chosen accordingly.
- U.S. Retail Sales: Inflection points used to determine turning points.
- U.S. Manufacturer's New Orders Index: This index has two components: U.S. Manufacturer's New Orders for Nondefense Capital Goods and U.S. Manufacturer's New Orders for Consumer Goods and Materials. Separately these two series slightly missed one or two turning points in the official reference series. But together they preceded each turning point.
- Louisville Help-Wanted Index: The Conference Board computes an index of help-wanted advertisements for major regions across the United States; Louisville is the only city in Kentucky covered by the Conference Board.

Notes:

- Growth rates are computed with precise numbers. Due to rounding, two observations may have the same reported value but still exhibit growth at a more precise level.
- More information is available on our website, http://www.osbd.ky.gov/.

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SELECTED KENTUCKY ECONOMIC INDICATORS SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	20	2007	:	!	1	!		2008	:	:	1	!	
	2	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	NOC	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCI	NON
KY Leading Index (1992=100)	112.4	112.1	112.0	111.7	111.7	111.2	111.3	110.9	110.9	109.9	109.3	108.4	107.6
% Chg Previous Month SAAR	0.0	-3.1	-1.1	-3.1	0.1	-5.5	1.0	4.3	0.4	-10.2	-7.0	-9.4	-8.7
% Chg Same Month Last Year	0.1	-0.9	-0.4	9.0-	-1.2	-1.2	4.1-	-1.6	-1.5	-2.0	-2.8	-3.6	-4.3
KY Leading Index Diffusion Index	26.7	26.7	26.7	26.7	20.0	46.7	46.7	46.7	43.3	43.3	36.7	33.3	26.7
KY Coincident Index (1992=100)	135.8	135.8	135.8	135.7	135.7	135.3	135.2	135.0	135.2	134.5	132.5	133.4	132.9
% Cha Previous Month SAAR	2.0	0.7	0.1	-12	-0.4	رب د	60-	-1.7	7.	5.5	-16.6	0.8	6.5-
% Chg Same Month Last Year	1.6	1.2	4.1	1.0	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.0	-0.1	9.0-	-2.3	-1.6	-2.1
KY Non-farm Employment (000s)	1.877.9	1.880.0	1.881.5	1.880.5	1.881.6	1.878.5	1.879.1	1.875.8	1.884.6	1.877.4	1.865.5	1.865.0	1.859.0
% Cha Previous Month SAAR	2.2	1.4	1.0	9.0-	0.7	-2.0	0.4	-2.1	2.8	-4.5	-7.3	-0.3	-3.8
% Chg Same Month Last Year	1.5	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.0	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.8	0.5	-0.3	-0.5	-1.0
KY Private Services Employment (000s)	1,187.1	1,188.9	1,194.4	1,193.5	1,190.8	1,189.5	1,185.2	1,183.5	1,188.7	1,188.3	1,181.6	1,182.9	1,175.5
% Chg Previous Month SAAR	1.6	1.9	2.7	6.0-	-2.7	-1.3	-4.3	-1.7	5.5	-0.5	9.9	4.1	-7.2
% Chg Same Month Last Year	1.5	1.2	1.6	1.7	1.1	1.	0.2	0.0	9.0	0.5	-0.1	-0.2	-1.0
KY Mfg Employment (000s)	253.1	250.7	250.6	250.4	253.3	250.7	251.8	247.9	252.3	245.4	242.8	240.4	239.2
% Chg Previous Month SAAR	-3.7	-10.8	-0.5	-1.0	14.8	-11.6	5.4	-17.1	23.5	-28.3	-12.0	-11.2	-5.8
% Chg Same Month Last Year	6.0-	-3.3	-3.2	-3.3	-0.8	-2.8	-2.3	4.0	-1.6	-2.9	4.7	-5.3	-5.5
KY Unemployment Rate (%)	5.1	5.3	5.2	5.3	2.7	5.6	6.2	6.3	6.7	8.8	7.1	6.8	7.0
KY Index of Initial UI Claims (1992=100)	102.7	102.0	102.8	102.2	101.0	100.8	101.4	100.2	100.0	99.2	97.8	8.96	96.0
% Chg Previous Month SAAR	13.4	-8.3	10.1	-6.3	-12.9	-2.7	6.7	-13.1	-1.8	-9.9	-14.9	-12.5	-9.0
% Chg Same Month Last Year	0.2	-2.0	-0.7	-0.5	-2.7	-2.2	-2.4	-3.4	-3.7	-4.0	-5.7	4.8	-6.5
KY Labor Intensity Index (1992=100)	104.8	104.6	104.6	104.5	104.5	104.4	104.4	104.0	104.5	104.1	103.8	103.7	103.5
% Chg Previous Month SAAR	-0.4	-3.0	0.3	-0.7	-0.1	-1.0	-0.2	4.3	2.7	-5.2	-3.3	-0.8	-2.0
% Chg Same Month Last Year	9.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.2	-0.3	9.0-	-0.1	-0.4	9.0-	<u>-</u> .	-1.2
Louisville HWI (1992=100)	19.0	20.0	19.0	18.0	20.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	13.0	11.0	11.0	10.0	8.0
% Chg Previous Month SAAR	6.68-	85.1	46.0	-47.7	254.1	-96.8	0.0	0.0	-82.0	-86.5	0.0	-68.1	-93.1
% Chg Same Month Last Year	-50.0	-52.4	45.7	-41.9	-53.5	-48.3	-50.0	-46.4	-43.5	-50.0	-52.2	-56.5	-57.9
GF Total Tax Receipts (\$ mill)	624.7	822.3	724.3	564.7	610.5	922.7	610.3	813.5	619.9	614.5	786.1	658.3	674.7
% Chg Same Month Last Year	-1.0	-6.7	6.1	3.8	-6.5	37.3	-22.2	3.2	1.9	8.5	4.4	3.0	8.0
GF Sales & Use Receipts (\$ mill)	236.1	235.2	296.7	205.5	209.6	232.4	238.4	249.0	266.1	251.7	233.6	252.5	216.9
% Chg Same Month Last Year	5.5	-1.5	3.7	6.2	4.1-	14.8	-12.0	2.5	0.9	4.1	8.0-	2.4	-8 -
GF Income Tax Receipts (\$ mill) % Chg Same Month Last Year	236.9	295.4	272.7 34.9	235.0	193.6 -5.1	544.3 92.1	261.6 -22.6	355.3 22.9	262.2	270.9	343.6	286.9	269.3 13.7

SELECTED U.S. ECONOMIC INDICATORS SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	20	2007						2008					
	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV
US Leading Index (2004=100)	103.1	103.0	102.5	102.2	102.0	102.1	102.0	102.1	101.4	100.6	100.6	99.6	99.2
% Chg Previous Month SAAR	-4.5	-1.2	-5.7	-3.5	-2.3	1.2	-1.2	1.2	-7.9	-9.1	0.0	-11.3	-4.7
% Chg Same Month Last Year	-1.0	-1.6	-1.8	-1.8	-2.2	-1.9	-2.2	-1.9	-3.2	-3.2	-3.2	-3.8	-3.8
US Coincident Index (1996=100) % Chg Previous Month SAAR % Chg Same Month Last Year	107.2 0.0 1.5	107.1 -1.1	107.0 -1.1 1.0	106.8 -2.2 0.7	106.7 -1.1 0.4	106.7 0.0 0.3	106.5 -2.2 0.0	106.4 -1.1 -0.2	106.2 -2.2 -0.7	105.8 -4.4 -1.1	104.6 -12.8 -2.3	104.9 3.5 -2.1	104.6 -3.4 -2.4
US Non-farm Employment (Mil.) % Chg Previous Month SAAR % Chg Same Month Last Year	138.0	138.1	138.0	137.9	137.8	137.8	137.7	137.6	137.6	137.4	137.0	136.6	136.0
	0.5	0.4	-0.7	-0.7	-0.8	-0.6	-0.4	-0.9	-0.6	-1.1	-3.5	-3.6	-5.0
	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.6	-1.0	-1.5
US Service-Providing Employment (Mil.)	116.0	116.1	116.1	116.1	116.1	116.1	116.1	116.1	116.1	116.1	115.8	115.5	115.1
% Chg Previous Month SAAR	1.2	1.2	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.4	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.6	-2.9	-2.3	-4.1
% Chg Same Month Last Year	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.1	-0.3	-0.7
US Manufacturing Employment (000s)	13,794.0	13,772.0 ·	13,737.0	13,690.0	13,644.0	13,592.0	13,571.0	13,527.0	13,487.0	13,426.0	13,357.0	13,234.0	13,130.0
% Chg Previous Month SAAR	-0.3		-3.0	-4.0	-4.0	-4.5	-1.8	-3.8	-3.5	-5.3	-6.0	-10.5	-9.0
% Chg Same Month Last Year	-1.9		-2.0	-2.1	-2.2	-2.4	-2.4	-2.6	-2.9	-3.0	-3.4	-4.1	-4.8
US Unemployment Rate (%)	4.7	6.4	6.4 6.0	8. 6.	5.1	5.0	5.5	5.6	5. 6.	6.2	6.2	6.6	6.8
US Manuacturers in New Orders Index (1990–100) % Chg Previous Month SAAR % Chg Same Month Last Year	-2.5 -1.5	9.8 -2.5	-28.9 -1.1	-8.3 -2.9	4.5 4.5 4.9	-16.6 -7.0	-14.2 -6.8	4.6 4.6 6.5	-1.2 -9.1	-43.1 -10.4	-18.4 -11.4	-31.1 -31.1 -14.3	-13.4 -15.1
US Initial Claims for UI (000s)	340.1	344.6	339.2	346.0	374.8	367.3	369.0	390.5	420.1	439.9	474.3	477.8	526.0
% Chg Previous Month SAAR	43.6	17.1	-17.3	26.9	161.0	-21.5	5.7	97.3	140.3	73.8	146.8	9.2	216.9
% Chg Same Month Last Year	3.7	7.5	7.7	6.5	20.4	14.3	19.6	22.6	36.1	35.2	49.0	44.8	54.7
US Industrial Production Index (1992=100)	112.3	112.4	112.6	112.3	112.0	111.4	111.2	111.3	111.2	109.8	105.2	107.1	105.7
% Chg Previous Month SAAR	5.2		2.0	-3.3	-2.5	-6.1	-2.4	0.7	-0.5	-14.4	-40.0	24.1	-14.8
% Chg Same Month Last Year	2.5		2.5	1.6	1.5	0.4	0.2	-0.1	-0.7	-1.9	-6.3	-4.2	-5.9
US Personal Income Less Trans. (Bil. 2000 chnd)	8,498.9	8,495.0	8,466.1	8,464.9	8,465.1	8,435.2	8,420.8	8,384.1	8,362.3	8,377.5	8,341.1	8,407.2	8,480.1
% Chg Previous Month SAAR	-1.2	-0.5	-4.0	-0.2	0.0	-4.2	-2.0	-5.1	-3.1	2.2	-5.1	9.9	10.9
% Chg Same Month Last Year	1.8	1.4	1.0	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.0	-0.6	-1.2	-1.3	-1.9	-1.2	-0.2
CPI, All Urban (1982-84=100)	210.9	211.7	212.5	212.6	213.3	213.7	215.1	217.4	219.2	218.9	218.8	216.7	213.1
% Chg Previous Month SAAR	11.3	4.4	4.8	0.3	4.2	2.5	8.1	13.4	10.3	-1.6	-0.4	-10.9	-18.4
% Chg Same Month Last Year	4.4	4.1	4.4	4.1	4.0	3.9	4.1	4.9	5.5	5.4	4.9	3.7	1.0
US Retail Sales (\$Billions)	384.2	380.6	380.0	378.1	380.0	380.8	383.8	384.1	381.6	379.0	373.0	360.3	352.6
% Chg Previous Month SAAR	15.3	-10.6	-1.8	-5.9	6.2	2.5	9.8	0.9	-7.5	-7.9	-17.3	-34.1	-22.8
% Chg Same Month Last Year	6.6	4.2	3.9	2.7	2.3	2.8	2.0	3.1	2.0	1.3	-1.4	-5.1	-8.2
US Consumer Expectations (1966=100)	66.2	65.6	68.1	62.4	60.1	53.3	51.1	49.2	53.5	57.9	67.2	57.0	53.9
% Chg Previous Month AR	-49.7	-10.4	56.6	-65.0	-36.3	-76.3	-39.7	-36.5	173.3	158.2	497.4	-86.1	-48.9
% Chg Same Month Last Year	-20.4	-19.2	-22.3	-23.4	-23.6	-29.8	-34.1	-34.1	-34.4	-21.4	-9.3	-18.7	-18.6
Ave. Prime Interest Rate (%, NSA)	7.50	7.33	6.98	00.9	5.66	5.24	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.56	4.00